DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 288 787 SO 018 570

AUTHOR Place, Jeffrey; And Others
TITLE American Folk Music and Folklore Recordings 1986: A Selected List.
INSTITUTION Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. American Folklife Center.
PUB DATE 87
NOTE 16p.; For related documents, see ED 271 353, ED 271 354, and ED 277 618.
PUB TYPE Reference Materials - Bibliographies (131)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Cultural Awareness; Cultural Background; Discographies; Elementary Secondary Education; *Folk Culture; *Music; Music Education; *Social Studies
IDENTIFIERS Black Folk Music; Country Music; Gospel Music; Western Music

ABSTRACT

Much of the heritage of the United States has been preserved in folk music and folklore. The recordings presented in this list have been instrumental in preserving this heritage and serve as valuable resources for students, teachers, and libraries. These recordings were selected by a panel of experts in the fields of folklore and ethnomusicology. Criteria for the selections were: (1) the recording was released in 1986; (2) the recording featured cultural traditions found in the United States; (3) the recording emphasized "root traditions"; (4) the recording was available to U.S. purchasers; and (5) the recording was well annotated with liner notes or accompanying booklets for classroom use. Each of the recordings is described. Representative selections include the fields of country, western, gospel, folk ballads, string-bands, bluegrass, and ethnic music. A list of the publishing companies is included. (SM)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED288787

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Jeffrey Place

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☑ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

SO018570

AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC AND FOLKLORE RECORDINGS 1986
A SELECTED LIST

Selection Panel

Michael S. Licht
Folklorist, District of Columbia Commission on the Arts and Humanities

Don L. Roberts
Head Music Librarian, Northwestern University

Kay Kaufman Shelemay
Department of Music, New York University

Jeff Todd Titon
Department of Music, Brown University

Charles K. Wolfe
Department of English, Middle Tennessee State University

Jeffrey Place
Project Coordinator

American Folklife Center
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20540
1987

INTRODUCTION

Since 1928 the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library of Congress has been helping to preserve America's cultural heritage by collecting sound recordings of folk music and folklore. In addition, over the last four decades the Library has released a series of LPs which provide highlights from the Archive's holdings. Since 1983 the Library's American Folklife Center has published *A Selected List* in order to help promote the best recordings of American folk music and folklore issued by various companies and organizations the previous year.

Small companies and organizations produce the bulk of traditional music on recordings. Such recordings elude the regular distribution networks and seldom appear in record shops and catalogs. The recordings released by these companies have been instrumental in preserving our folk heritage and encouraging those performers who are active in folk communities. For this reason, these recordings are valuable resources for students, teachers, and libraries. We hope with the publication of *A Selected List* to foster an increased awareness of such recordings.

Each year a panel of experts active in the fields of folklore and ethnomusicology meets to select a group of outstanding recordings from the approximately two hundred records and tapes submitted for consideration by producers and manufacturers or suggested by various folklorists, ethnomusicologists, and the Center staff. The list is not comprehensive but is intended to make important recent sound recordings more readily available to libraries, educators, and others. To be eligible for consideration a recording must:

—be released in 1986;

—feature cultural traditions found within the United States;

—emphasize "root traditions" over popular adaptations of traditional materials;

—be conveniently available to American purchasers;

—be well annotated with liner notes or accompanying booklets relating the recordings to the performers, their communities, genres, styles, or other pertinent information.

The American Folklife Center hopes that the continuing publication of this list will encourage the production of new high-quality documentary folk recordings, which in turn will help those performers who preserve our country's rich folk heritage. We also hope that the list will stimulate record companies to include sufficient documentation with each recording so it can stand on its own merits as an educational tool. The increase in the quality of recordings submitted for consideration makes us believe that progress is being made towards this goal.

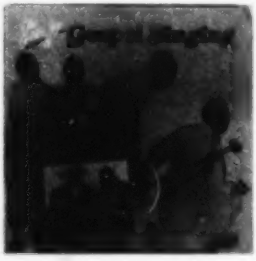
The recordings in the following annotated listings are produced by the companies and organizations listed at the rear of the booklet. None of the recordings listed is manafactured, distributed, or offered for sale by the Library of Congress. The booklet also lists other publications that review folk music and folklore recordings, and major mail-order distributors of folk recordings. We have included Library of Congress catalog card numbers for the convenience of librarians; they should not be used when ordering these recordings from the applicable company.

To suggest suitable 1987 recordings for next year's panel or to receive additional copies of the list please write to: *Selected List*, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

AFRO-AMERICAN

A Cappella Gospel Singing. Folklyric 9045. LP/Arhoolie cassette C-223. *A cappella* (without instruments) gospel groups recorded primarily in the South 1936-1952. Vocal harmonies in the quartet style. Edited and compiled by Chris Strachwitz from 78-rpm discs. Jacket notes on the performers by Ray Funk. LCCN 87-743044.

The Golden Age of Gospel Singing. Folklyric 9046. LP/Arhoolie cassette C-223. Quartet-style gospel groups with instrumental accompaniment. A mixture of male and female quartets. Recorded in the 1940s and 1950s. Includes some topical material. Edited and compiled by Chris Strachwitz. Jacket notes on the performers by Ray Funk. LCCN 87-743045.



Fathers and Sons. Spirit Feel SF 1001. LP. Male quartet-style gospel groups recorded 1939-1956. Features performances by the Soul Stirrers, The Five Blind Boys of Mississippi, and the Sensational Nightingales. Vocals with accompaniment. Jacket notes by Anthony Heilbut. Remastering by Nick Perls. LCCN 87-743052.

Skip James: The Complete 1931 Session. Yazoo 1072. LP. Historic recordings of Mississippi bluesman Nehemiah Curtis James (1902-1969) from a 1931 recording session for Paramount Records in Grafton, Wisconsin. James was an important figure in Delta blues. Performed on both guitar and piano. Jacket notes by Steve Calt. LCCN 87-743058.

Freddy King: Just Pickin'. Modern Blues Recordings MB2LP-721. 2 LPs in one sleeve. Reissues of two LPs from 1961 and 1965 of blues guitar instrumentals from the King label of Memphis, Tennessee featuring Texas bluesman Freddy King (1934-1976). Twenty-four pieces performed on electric guitar with a band; includes the 1961 hit song "Hideaway." Influential on later rock and blues guitarists. Digitally remastered; coordinated by and extensive jacket notes written by Daniel Jacoubovitch. LCCN 86-743238.

ANGLO-AMERICAN

It's Just the Same Today: The Barnicle-Cadle Field Recordings From Eastern Tennessee and Kentucky, 1938-1949. Tennessee Folklore Society TFS-108. LP. Recently rediscovered field recordings of Anglo-American ballads and dance tunes made by Mary Elizabeth Barnicle (1898-1979) and Tillman Cadle (1902-). Some of the ballads are unaccompanied. Performers include Sara Ogan Gunning, Tillman Cadle, Sam and Charley Green, Jack Johnson, and others. Produced and annotated by Willie Smyth. Includes an eleven-page booklet and jacket notes describing the performers and the songs, a suggested reading list, and photographs. LCCN 87-743055.

Ernie Carpenter: Elk River Blues; Traditional Fiddle Tunes From Braxton County, West Virginia. Augusta Heritage Records AHR 003. LP. Recordings of old-time fiddler Ernest Carpenter of Sutton, West Virginia made 1981-present. Carpenter comes from four generations of West Virginia fiddlers. Instrumental fiddle tunes accompanied on guitar and banjo. Researched and produced for the Home Place Project at the Augusta Heritage Center, Elkins, West Virginia by Gerry Milnes and Michael Kline. Includes jacket notes describing the sources of the songs, and a twelve-page descriptive booklet compiled by Milnes and Kline entitled *Ernie Carpenter: Tales of the Elk River Country*, which tells of life on the river for many generations. Photos and biographical information. LCCN 87-743040.

Tommy Jarrell: Rainbow Sign. County 791. LP. 1984 recordings of the renowned North Carolina fiddler Thomas Jefferson Jarrell (1901-1985), who has influenced many younger musicians. These are some of Jarrell's last recordings. Vocals and fiddle with accompaniment by Andy Cahan on banjo, Alice Gerrard on guitar, and Verlen Clifton on mandolin. Brief jacket notes Cahan, Clifton and Gerrard. LCCN 87-743043.

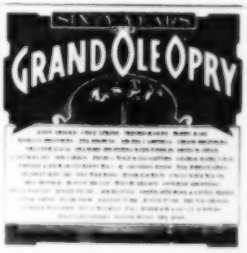
Frank Bode: Been Riding with Old Mosby. Folkways FTS 31109. LP. Anglo-American ballads performed with guitar accompaniment by singer Frank Bode (1939-) of Toast, North Carolina. Recorded in September 1984 by Eric Davidson and Ellen Victoria. Features accompaniment on some selections by Tommy Jarrell on fiddle and Paul Brown on banjo. Includes a six-page pamphlet with biographical information, song lyrics, and descriptions of the songs annotated by Victoria and Davidson. LCCN 87-743046.

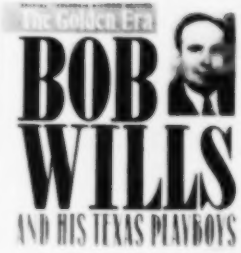
Ridin' in an Old Model T: Toddles, Wobbles, Rags, and Blues. County 548. LP. Historic commercial recordings of string-band instrumentals by various groups recorded in the South during the 1930s. Contains examples of different forms of string-band tunes from the rag to the wobble. Taken from 78-rpm discs, these recordings document string bands from underrepresented areas of the South. Produced by David Freeman with jacket notes on the songs and performers by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 87-743042.

Ernest V. Stoneman: "With Family and Friends"—Volumes 1 and 2. Old Homestead OCHS 172/ OCHS 173. LPs. Two volumes of historic recordings (1926-1934) by Virginia-born singer Ernest V. "Pop" Stoneman (1893-1968) and his family. First recorded in 1924, Stoneman was an important figure in early country music. A mixture of string-band music, ballads with guitar and harmonica, and sacred songs. Many of the songs were written in the late nineteenth century. Also includes topical songs of the day. Jacket notes on both volumes by Ivan Tribe. LCCN 87-743050.

Jimmie Rodgers On Record: America's Blue Yodeler. Smithsonian Collection of Recordings R 034. Two-LP set. Classic recordings of James Charles "Jimmie" Rodgers (1897-1933), the "Father of Country Music." A representative collection of songs from Rodgers' brief career. Recordings are arranged chronologically and include performances less frequently reissued. Contains his first recordings from Bristol, Tennesee in 1927 and his last made shortly before he died of tuberculosis in New York in 1933. Included are most of his famous "blue yodels." Selected and annotated by Nolan Porterfield, the biographer of Rodgers, with biographical information and description of the songs in a 24-page booklet. LCCN 87-743052.

Sixty Years of the Grand Old Opry. RCA CPL2-9507. Two-LP set/cassette. A representative tribute to the Grand Old Opry (1926-), the longest running country radio program. Includes performances by 42 of the best-known participants during the Opry's sixty-year history. Orangized chronologically from the 1928 recording of Paul Warmack and the Gully Jumpers to a 1985 recording of Ronnie Milsap. Many appear for the first time on LP, and two have never been released in any form. Produced by the Country Music Foundation. Extensive jacket notes on the Opry and the featured songs by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 87-743051.





Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys: The Golden Era. Columbia C2 40149. Two-LP set/cassette. Historic recordings of James Robert Wills (1904-1975), the "King of Western Swing," and his Texas Playboys. Taken from original 78-rpm discs 1935-1946. Wills' dance orchestra was the most popular in Texas and Oklahoma during this period. Much of the material features the group's popular vocalist Tommy Duncan. Extensive jacket notes with biographical information by Bob Pinson of the Country Music Foundation; photos. LCCN 87-743041.

The Stanley Brothers: Stanley Series Volume 2, Number 3. Copper Creek CCSS-V2N3. LP/cassette. Historic concert recordings by influential bluegrass performers Ralph (1927-) and Carter (1925-1966) Stanley, recorded in Morrisville, Virginia on July 8, 1956. Includes songs and comic material. The Stanleys are accompanied by Curley Lambert on mandolin, Chubby Anthony on fiddle, and Lindy Clear on bass. Compiled from original tapes courtesy of Alice Gerrard. Includes jacket notes with biographical information and transcriptions of the songs. LCCN 86-751746.

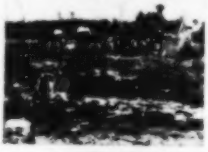
THE DRY BRANCH FIRE SQUAD

The Dry Branch Fire Squad: Golgotha. Rounder 0224. LP/cassette. Bluegrass gospel from an Ohio-based group. Four selections are performed *a cappella* (without instruments) and the other eight with bluegrass instrumentation. The songs come from a variety of sources from traditional to popular. The group is comprised of Ron Thomason on mandolin, guitar, banjo, and vocals; Dave Edmundson on guitar, fiddle, mandolin, and vocals; Dick Erwin on bass and vocals; John Hisey on banjo and vocals; and Mary Jo Leet on guitar and vocals. Includes jacket notes describing the sources of the songs. LCCN 87-750870.

OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS

Accordions in the Cutover: Field Recordings of Ethnic Music From Lake Superior's South Shore. Wisconsin Folklife Center, no catalog number. Two-LP set. Field recordings made mostly in 1980-81 in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Produced with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the recordings were made by James P. Leary and the students and staff of Northland College. Songs and dances of various European-American immigrant groups. The groups represented are Czechoslovakian, Polish, Yugoslav, Norwegian, Swedish, and Finnish. Includes jacket notes, map, and a 36-page booklet with biographies of performers, lyrics, translations of songs, maps, photos, historical, cultural, and ethnomusicological commentary, and bibliographic and discographic references. LCCN 87-743056.

Accordions in the Cutover



Mariam Nirenberg: Folksongs in the East European Jewish Tradition. Global Village Music 117. LP/cassette. Recordings from the repertoire of Polish-born Mariam Nirenberg. Nirenberg has gathered songs from various sources over the course of her career and performs them in the traditional style without accompaniment. The songs are in Yiddish, Ukrainian, Polish, and Russian. Includes concert recordings made in New York City and field recordings made in her home, Toronto, Ontario. The recordings were made between 1946 and 1983 with the earliest ones taken from 78-rpm discs. Selections are from the Max and Frieda Weinstein Archive of sound recordings at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. This collection was prepared by Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett with assistance from Mark Slobin and Eleanor Gordon Mlotek. Includes a 20-page booklet with essays, photographs, transcriptions of tunes and texts, English translations, and annotations. LCCN 87-743047.

Chesta e la Voci ca Canuscite—This is the Voice You Know: Southern Italian Mountain Music from Calabria, Campania, Basilicata and Abruzzi. Global Village Music GVM #675. LP/cassette. Recordings of social and ceremonial music of Italian-Americans in the Buffalo area of New York and Southern Ontario. The Southern Italian music is characterized by the bagpipe, the *organetto* (button-accordion), and a high-pitched throaty vocal style. Also prominent in many of the songs is the use of the *friction drum* as accompaniment. The work was sponsored by the Italian Folk Arts Federation of America, the Institute for Italian-American Studies, the National Italian American Foundation, and the Western New York Society for the Preservation of Italian Folklore. It was recorded and produced by Anna L. Chairetakis, Domenico Carbone, Marguerite Collesano, and Phillip Rigio with assistance from Nora Migliaccio. A 20-page booklet contains an essay, song notes, photographs, text transcriptions, and English translations of many lyrics. LCCN 87-743048.

La Baronessa di Carini: Sicilian Traditional Songs and Music. Global Village Music GVM 676/677. Two-LP set/Two-cassette set. Social and ceremonial music of Sicilian-Americans recorded in northwestern New York and Southern Ontario as part of a survey of Italian folk arts (for further description see notes for **Chesta e la Voci ca Canuscite** . . .). Featured are the Sicilian styles of song known as *canzuna* and *artigiano*, which were important as work songs, for social gatherings, and in courtship in small Sicilian villages. For many of these immigrants the difference in life styles in the United States has all but made these rituals disappear, especially among the young. Includes jacket notes and a 28-page booklet with essays, photographs, song notes, Sicilian text transcriptions, and English translations. LCCN 87-743049.

Powwow Songs: Music of the Plains Indians. New World NW 343. LP. Ceremonial and social music of Native Americans of the Great Plains. Side one consists of intertribal singing of the Southern Plains Indians, and side two is from the Northern Plains. Much of the LP was recorded in August, 1975 at the sixth annual Kihekah Steh Powwow in Skiatook, Oklahoma. The LP reproduces the ceremonies and dances that take place during a "powwow" or general gathering. Includes dance contest songs, war dance songs, and grass dance songs. Recorded by Charlotte Heth and Michael Moore. Jacket notes by Heth include descriptions of the songs and a selected bibliography and discography. LCCN 86-743039.

Nathan Abshire: A Cajun Legend: the Best of Nathan Abshire. Swallow 6061. LP/cassette. Louisiana "Cajun" accordionist and vocalist Nathan Abshire (1915-1981), a major figure in the music of French Louisiana during his lifetime, is showcased in this collection. Features what has now become a Louisiana standard, the song "Pine Grove Blues." Consists of original songs, waltzes, and two-steps, with Abshire accompanied by the Balfa Brothers on many selections. Comes with a 4-page pamphlet compiled by Barry Jean Ancelet with complete French lyrics and English translations. LCCN 87-743053.

Flaco Jimenez: Ay te Dejo en San Antonio. Arhoolie 3021. LP. *Musica norteña.* Mexican-American conjunto music performed by Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez (1939-). Consists of polkas and *rancheras* performed on accordion, with Toby Torres on *bajo sexto* (a type of twelve-string guitar), Henry "Big Red" Ojeda on bass, and Isaac Garcia on drums. The Jimenez family has been active in Tex-Mex border music for generations. Jacket notes by Chris Strachwitz. LCCN 87-743039.

Augie Meyers Presents San Antonio Saturday Night. Sonet SNTF -933. LP. Four Mexican-American conjuntos (bands) from San Antonio, Texas. San Antonio has almost become synonymous with this style of dance music. The LP shows the great variety of styles utilized by working Tex-Mex dance bands. Selections range from the 1950s style accordion-based music of Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez and the 1980s style piano and synthesizer-based music of Los Formales. Also included are Los Paisanos and Los Hermanos Barron. Jacket notes by Samuel Charters describe the nature of the people and the music. LCCN 87-750955.

ANTHOLOGIES WITH A REGIONAL FOCUS

. . . You Know That Wyoming Will Be Your New Home: Songs and Stories of Wyoming Settlement. Wyoming Council on the Arts, no catalog number. Second edition. Four-cassette set. A series of 8 half-hour cassette programs, in radio show format, of the music, songs, and stories of Wyoming stettlement. Topics include storytelling, cowboy songs, the Basques in Wyoming, Hispanics, Russian-Germans, Eastern-Europeans, and an old-time fiddle contest. One of the programs is a synthesis of the others. Narrated by Larry Peterson. Directed by Dennis Coelho. Produced by Deborah Jane Lamberton. Includes a brief booklet describing each program with suggestions for additional readings; photos. LCCN 87-743057.

Publishers of Listed Recordings

Arhoolie Records
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Augusta Heritage Records
Davis and Elkins College
Elkins, WV 26241

Columbia Historic Editions
CBS Records
34 Music Square East
Nashville, TN 37203

Copper Creek Records
2623 Cedarhurst Avenue NW
Roanoke, VA 24012

County Records
Box 191
Floyd, VA 24091

Folkyric Records
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Folkways Records
632 Broadway
New York, NY 10012

Global Village Music
Box 2051
Cathedral Station
New York, NY 10025

Modern Blues Recordings
P.O. Box 248
Pearl River, NY 10965

New World Records
701 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10036

Old Homestead Records
Box 100
Brighton, MI 48116

RCA Records
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Rounder Records
1 Camp Street
Cambridge, MA 02140

Smithsonian Collection of Recordings
Box 10230
Des Moines, IA 50336

Sonet Records
121 Ledbury Road
London W11, 2AQ
ENGLAND

Spirit Feel Records
c/o Shanachie Records
Dalebrook Park
Hohokus, NJ 07423

Swallow Records
Drawer 10
Ville Platte, LA 70586-0010

Tennessee Folklore Society
Middle Tennessee State University
Box 201
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Wisconsin Folklife Center
Route 3
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Wyoming Council on the Arts
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Yazoo Records
245 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10014

For further listings and reviews of folk records, consult publications such as *American Music, Bluegrass Unlimited, Blues Unlimited, County Sales Newsletter, Disc Collector, Ethnomusicology, Frets, JEMF Quarterly, Journal of American Folklore, Living Blues, Old-Time Music, Record Roundup, Sing Out!, Western Folklore,* and *Rockingchair* (a supplement of the *Voice of Youth Advocate*). *Ethnomusicology*, the journal of the Society for Ethnomusicology, publishes a "Current Discography" feature in each issue. In addition, the free guide *Folklife and Ethnomusicology Serial Publications in North America* is available from the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

For a more complete guide to folk record labels and direct mail-order sources, write for the free reference aid *Recording Companies in North America Specializing in Folk Music, Folklore and Ethnomusicology (LCFARA 3)* prepared by the Archive of Folk Culture.

Folklife Sourcebook, a directory of folklife resources in the United States and Canada, can be obtained by sending $10.00 to the Folklife Sourcebook, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Mail-Order Sources for Folk Recordings

Alcazar Records
Box 429
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 244-8657

Andy's Front Hall
Wormer Road
P.O. Box 307
Vorheesville, NY 12186
(518) 765-4193

County Sales
Box 191
Floyd, VA
(703) 745-2001

Down Home Music
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
(415) 525-1494

Elderly Records
1100 North Washington
Box 14210
Lansing, MI 48901
(517) 372-7890, 372-4161

Global Village Music
Box 2051
Cathedral Station
New York, NY 10025
(212) 749-2284

In the Tradition
P.O. Box 223
Deer Isle, ME 04627
(207) 348-6884

Original Music
R.D. 1, Box 190
Lasher Road
Tivoli, NY 12583
(914) 756-2767

Rooster Blues
2615 North Wilton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
(312) 281-3385

Roundup Records
Box 154
Cambridge, MA 02140
(617) 354-0700

Previous editions of **A Selected List** are available at facilities across the United States through the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) of the U.S. Department of Education. Consult your librarian or online service vendor (such as BRS or DIALOG), or contact:

ERIC Document
Reproduction Service
3900 Wheeler Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304

(703) 823-0500
(800) 227-3742

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS